

[English]

PETROL/DIESEL OUTLETS IN BALASORE, ORISSA

1000. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol/diesel outlets allotted so far in the Balasore district of Orissa; and

(b) the names of places in Balasore which have been included in the Marketing Plan 1991-92 for opening of these outlets and places being surveyed at present ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Twenty two.

(b) No new location in this district has been identified for opening a retail outlet dealership.

EXPORT OF DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES

1001. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the diesel locomotives made by Indian Railways are the cheapest in price and best in performance ; and

(b) if so, whether the Government any proposal to export the diesel locomotives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The diesel locomotives made by Indian Railways are amongst the cheapest in the corresponding horse power range.

The basic design of the locomotive is of 1960 vintage. This has done excellent service and continues to be the mainstay of diesel traction on the Indian Railways. However, in fuel efficiency, haulage capacity, speed potential and maintainability, it does not match the current designs of

diesel locomotives marketed in advanced countries.

(b) No Sir. The manufacturing capacity in the country is not adequate to satisfy the full requirement of the Indian Railways and Public Sector Undertakings.

DIRECT AIRLINK FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES

1002. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM :
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to develop budhist shrines in various States;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide direct airlink from Japan, Sri Lanka, Korea, Thailand, Taiwan and Indonesia to the budhist shrines situated in the different parts of the country to avoid any kind of inconvenience to the tourists coming from those countries;

(c) if not, the alternative arrangement the Government propose to provide for the tourists from these countries;

(d) whether Japan has already shown interests in this regard and assured some financial help also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) . (a) Tourism infrastructure at certain places in U. P. and Bihar connected with the life of Lord Buddha are being developed.

(b) No, Sir. The Buddhist traffic from Japan, Sri Lanka, Korea, Thailand, Taiwan and Indonesia is not sufficiently large at present to warrant direct airlinks with the Buddhist centres in India.

(c) The existing airlinks to the country are adequate to cater to the tourists who wish to come to the country to visit the Buddhist Shrines.

(d) No, Sir. The Government of Japan have not assured any financial help for these airlinks.